MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
26 April, 1977

AM
10:00 *CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.*

ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings: 24 May, 1977
28 June, 1977

B. Minutes of April 5, 1977 meeting.

C. Civic Center Summary Abstract.

SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

A. D.C. Department of Economic Development

Old Georgetown Act

1. OG 77-86, 1210-14 35th Street, N.W., Three New Single-Family Dwellings - Resubmission.

2. OG 77-90, 3222 and 3248 M Street, N.W., 1070 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Demolition of Existing Buildings Except M Street Frontage and Erection of New Residential/Commercial Structure.

3. Appendix 1.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 77-36, 77-37, 412 and 416 5th Street, N.W., Demolition of Existing Buildings - Completion of Action.

2. SL 77-62, 201 East Capitol Street, S.E., Folger Library Addition.

3. SL 77-63, 502 19th Street, N.W., Raze Existing Building.

4. SL 77-64, 1901 E Street, N.W., Raze Existing Building.

5. SL 77-65, 1921 E Street, N.W., Raze Existing Building.

6. SL 77-66, 1957 E Street, N.W., Raze Existing Building.

7. Appendix 2.

B. D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development

Historic Subdivisions

Appendix 3.

C. National Park Service, National Capital Region

1. Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Island Footbridge.

2. "Artists in Action", Temporary Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit, May 29 through June, 1977.

D. Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

Exchange Facility, Bolling/Anacostia Tract.

E. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

1. Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson, Obverse Medal Design.

2. Chief Justice Oliver Ellsworth, Obverse Medal Design.

3. Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes, Obverse Medal Design.

4. Chief Justice Earl Warren, Obverse Medal Design.

5. Chief Justice John Rutledge, Obverse Medal Design.

F. Federal Reserve System

Federal Reserve Board Headquarters Building, Enclosure of Podium Level - Consideration of Alternatives.

INSPECTIONS

Federal Reserve System

Federal Reserve Board Headquarters Building, Enclosure of Podium Level.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

26 April, 1977

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
OG 77-82	1417 33rd Street, N.W. David Schwartz	Enclose alley between houses and extend rear wing.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Recommend restudy of relationship of front wall of addition to facade of houses. Suggest addition be about 4 feet behind facade and that clerestory be angled back and treated like a skylight. No objection to concept. 4/21/77	
83	3217 K Street, N.W. Dodge Center Limited Partnership	4' x 6' temporary aluminum leasing sign.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 4/21/77	
84	1515 29th Street, N.W. LeeZee Porter	Wooden 7' high fence in rear yard and brick wall to match existing.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 4/21/77	
85	1432 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Don Siegel	New wooden sign with gilded copy in relief.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Recommend that sign not be mounted on wood trim as proposed, but be hung across door opening between bay windows with no overlapping of windows by sign. No objection to general character in this case. 4/21/77	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

26 April, 1977

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
OG 77-55	1210-14 35th Street, N.W. Nivan, Inc.	Preliminary submission for subdivision endorsement prior to submission of building plans (resubmission refer to OG 77-41).

ACTION: Do not issue permit until final designs have been approved. Basic concept of site plan as presented is approved, subject to design development and elevation drawings indicating vertical relationship of Prospect House to proposed new construction, gardens, and wall along 35th Street. Request submission of design development drawings, working drawings, material samples, and landscaping plans as they are developed. 4/8/77

62	3250 Grace Street, N.W. Holland & Lyons	Construct 102 townhouse units, underground garage and rehabilitate, remodel, and reconstruct existing office and warehouse into apartment house. Raze some structures.

ACTION: Do not issue permit until final working drawings have been approved. Request submission of design development drawings indicating precise site plans and house details as well as fenestration proposals for renovated structures. No objection to proposed razing of central 20th century structures or low buildings on the corner of Grace and Potomac Streets, N.W. 4/8/77

79	1204½ 30th Street, N.W. Christopher Gavin	Install canvas awning.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Awning not recommended in this location on this particular building. 4/21/77

80	3415 Volta Place, N.W. Stuart C. Davidson	Addition at "rear" side of existing dwelling, glass-roofed "garden room".

ACTION: Issue permit. 4/21/77

81	3217 K Street, N.W. Maloney Concrete Company	Parking sign.

ACTION: Do not issue permit. Recommend sign be modified to have black opaque-faced letters on white opaque background with backlighting behind letters. 4/21/77

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

26 April, 1977

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
SL 77-22	8175 East Beach Drive, N.W. Dickie Carter	New single-family dwelling.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 4/8/77	
30	410½ 1st Street, S.E. Mar-Penn Limited Partnership	Raze existing building.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Retention of front portion of this building is recommended as part of the design of overall proposed project. 4/8/77	
31	412 1st Street, S.E. Mar-Penn Limited Partnership	Raze existing building.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 4/8/77	
42	1825 F Street, N.W. Inter-American Properties	Multi-story, single tenant office building.
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Preliminary designs are approved subject to additional study of the court-yard and garden walls. Request submission of working drawings, material samples, and landscaping plans for review. 4/8/77	
44	410 1st Street, S.E. Mar-Penn Limited Partnership	New brick facing and utility core addition (resubmission refer to SL 77-24).
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Preliminary design approved. Request submission of material samples and final working drawings for review. 4/8/77	
45	412 1st Street, S.E. Mar-Penn Limited Partnership	New brick office building (resubmission refer to SL 77-25).
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Preliminary design approved. Request submission of material samples and final working drawings for review. 4/8/77	
46	600 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. Milan S. Matus	Install handmade wooden sign over archway in front of store, hung from heavy duty chain anchored in brick.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 4/21/77	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

26 April, 1977

NO.	*ADDRESS AND OWNER*	*PROJECT*
SL 77-		
47	*102 Manchester Court, N.W.*	*Twelve new single-family residences.*
48	*104 Manchester Court, N.W.*	
49	*106 Manchester Court, N.W.*	
50	*108 Manchester Court, N.W.*	
51	*110 Manchester Court, N.W.*	
52	*112 Manchester Court, N.W.*	
53	*1614 Manchester Lane, N.W.*	*(Resubmission refer to SL 77-11)*
54	*1616 Manchester Lane, N.W.*	*(Resubmission refer to SL 77-12)*
55	*1620 Manchester Lane, N.W.*	*(Resubmission refer to SL 77-13)*
56	*1622 Manchester Lane, N.W.*	*(Resubmission refer to SL 77-14)*
57	*1624 Manchester Lane, N.W.*	*(Resubmission refer to SL 77-15)*
58	*1626 Manchester Lane, N.W.*	*(Resubmission refer to SL 77-16)*
	Michael Minkoff	
ACTION:	*Issue permit. Submit landscape plans and material samples as they are developed. 4/8/77*	
60	*1007 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.*	*Single-faced non-illuminated panel sign with plexiglas*
	Blimpie Restaurant/Ben Sanada	*letters and blimp.*
ACTION:	*Do not issue permit. Character and use of logo not recommended on Pennsylvania Avenue. No objection of location or size, but suggest that logo be eliminated or used behind windows. Brown background for sign is approved. 4/25/77*	
71	*600 22nd Street, N.W.*	*Install air-cooled radiator for cooling generator room*
	George Washington University	*for emergency lighting of building, located below side-*
		walk level in existing depression and screened with planting.
ACTION:	*Issue permit. 4/21/77*	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON HISTORIC SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS

26 April, 1977

NO.	*SQUARE, LOT, ADDRESS AND OWNER*	*DESCRIPTION*
HS 77-34	*Square 1264, Lot 800* *2523 P Street, N.W.* *Freddy D. & Margit S. Greenspon*	*Conversion of Assessment and Taxation Lot 800 into a record to allow for a rear addition.*
ACTION:	*No objection. 4/21/77*	

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
26 April, 1977

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Members Present:	*Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman*
	Hon. Philip W. Buchen
	Hon. Victorine du Pont Homsey
	Hon. Frederick D. Nichols
	Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.
Staff Present:	*Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary*
	Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
	Miss Lynda L. Brown
	Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
	Mr. J. L. Sibley Jennings, Jr.
	Mrs. Sue A. Kohler
	Miss Nancy H. Noyes

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings were set at 24 May, 1977, with an 8:00 or 9:00 p.m. lighting inspection on the 23rd and a luncheon meeting with the Georgetown Citizens on the 24th. The June meeting would be on the 28th.

B. Minutes of the April 5, 1977 meeting, approved.

C. Civic Center Summary Abstract. The Secretary told of a booklet sent out by the District Government to solicit comments on a revised convention center project near Mount Vernon Square. Several years before the Commission has reviewed preliminary designs for the center flanking 8th Street, N.W., just south of Mount Vernon Square. Now the center was being proposed one block west of the previous site, between 9th and 11th Streets along New York Avenue. Now the 8th Street axis would be free for lively symmetrical development without the huge center looming along one side of the pedestrian axis between the Library and the National Collection. The Commission had no comment on the proposal, other than a hope for good design. No action was required.

II. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

A. <u>D.C. Department of Economic Development</u>

<u>Old Georgetown Act</u>

1. OG 77-86, 1210-14 35th Street, N.W., Three New Single-

Family Dwellings - Resubmission. The Assistant Secretary presented a photograph and site plan of Prospect House in Georgetown and the site plan for three proposed new dwellings to be on the property along 35th Street. The Commission and the Georgetown Board had reviewed and approved a similar site plan on April 5th. Approval was granted pending further design details.

2. OG 77-90, 3222 and 3248 M Street, N.W. (Rear), and 1070 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Demolition of Existing Buildings except M Street Frontage and Erection of New Residential/Commercial Complex. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and photographs of the proposal to remove a number of large car-barn structures from the middle of a block bounded by Wisconsin Avenue, M Street, and the C. & O. Canal. Existing construction along M Street and a handsome retaining wall along the canal would be retained. New construction would include three levels of parking topped by three levels of retail and several levels of apartment hotel. The architect, Mrs. Chloethiel Woodard Smith, presented various details of the scheme indicating that the actual facades along the canal and Wisconsin Avenue were in the design process. If the Commission concurred with progress to date, the project would move into more detailed design. The Commission unanimously approved the proposed demolition, as had the Old Georgetown Board. They also voiced hope to be involved with the continuing design efforts.

3. Appendix 1, approved.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. SL 77-36, 77-37, 412 and 416 5th Street, N.W., Demolition of Existing Buildings - Completion of Action. The Assistant Secretary presented a number of photographs of the two buildings, reminding the Commission that they had viewed slides and discussed the proposed demolition on April 5th. At that time the Commission voted to wait for the Joint Committee on Landmarks to determine if the structures were important in terms of national and local preservation and planning legislation. The Assistant Secretary reported that the Joint Committee on Landmarks had no objection to razing the structures. The Commission took a unanimous action approving the demolitions, with the suggestion that some of the doorway details be retained for use in the new complex to be constructed on the site according to the Judiciary Square master plan.

2. SL 77-62, 201 East Capitol Street, S.E., Folger Library Addition. The Secretary presented drawings, photographs, and two models showing the Folger Library building as designed in the 1930's by Paul Cret. He told of the unique architectural interiors and collection as well as showing the location of the proposed new addition, between the existing building and the Thomas Jefferson

Library. The proposed addition would be of matching marble, of contemporary style, and would have limited visibility from public space. Mr. Warren Cox, one of the architects, presented his concept for a simple elegant contemporary reading room with space for hanging numerous paintings from the library's extensive collection. Arched and vaulted ceilings in concert with skylights and clerestories would result in a unique and highly articulated natural light flooding the paintings. The Chairman warned of frame shadows on the interior of the building and general discussion ensued. The Commission gave their enthusiastic unanimous approval of the preliminary scheme subject to submission of working drawings and material samples.

3. SL 77-63, 502 19th Street, N.W., Raze Existing Building. The Secretary indicated that this case and SL 77-64, -65, and -66 were part of a single proposal to build a new office building facing Walt Whitman Park along E Street between 19th and 20th Streets, N.W. Included in the proposal was clearing the site of three buildings: a liquor store, a small savings and loan office, and the present headquarters of the Associated General Contractors. The Commission examined the site plan and photographs and had no objection to the proposed razing. This was a unanimous action, confirmed by a site inspection later in the morning. The Secretary introduced Mr. John Samperton, architect of the proposed new building, who presented schematic designs. The Commission examined a model and drawings with no objection to the proposed building. As further design development, landscaping plans, and materials would be developed, these would be submitted to the Commission. Mr. Samperton indicated that one small zoning use exception was being sought for the project. He stated that the small savings and loan company wished to remain on the site until new construction was complete and then move into the new building. As a non-conforming use in a Special Purpose zone this would require a variance. The Commission indicated their support for such a variance.

4. SL 77-64, see above SL 77-63.
5. SL 77-65, see above SL 77-63.
6. SL 77-66, see above SL 77-63.

7. Appendix 2, approved.

B. D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development

Historic Subdivisions

Appendix 3, approved.

C. National Park Service, National Capital Region

Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Island Footbridge. The Assis-

tant Secretary presented photographs and drawings of five different schemes for a bridge crossing from the Virginia shore to the Theodore Roosevelt Island and Memorial. He reviewed the Commission's 1964 approval of a 400-foot-long, single span, orthotropic steel structure. The Commission indicated their continuing preference for that scheme. The National Park Service, however, had found that the proposed bridge was too expensive and had come up with several alternate schemes. These were either steel, concrete, or wood with a number of support piers mid-span. The Commission examined the alternatives and discussed the matter with Mr. John Parsons of the National Park Service who indicated that there was some flexibility in the design, but not in the cost. The Commission took the unanimous action that they would like additional study of an arched concrete bridge with timber trim. Mr. Stone said that the ends of the bridge would be difficult matters if they met the shore without adequate site and landscape planning. The Commission indicated that the total design should minimize the intrusion on the natural wilderness of the island. *EXHIBIT A*

D. Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command

Exchange Facility, Bolling/Anacostia Tract. The Assistant Secretary presented this large one-floor retail structure with solar heating and cooling by means of photographs and drawings. The proposed structure would match existing materials and the approved master plan. He indicated that this was the first submission to the Commission of Fine Arts of a building designed with solar panels as part of its original architecture. The Commission commended the design and the technique for screening the ends and brackets of the roof-mounted panels. Mr. Richard Scalessa, of the Navy, made some general comments about the building and the post. Mr. Stone asked if the Navy was actively landscaping the post, recalling the barren look of a few years ago. Mr. Scalessa indicated that planting was going on, even though with small material. The Commission of Fine Arts had suggested extensive landscaping to soften and screen this prominent and visible military installation. The Commission unanimously approved the design. *EXHIBIT B*

E. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

1. Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson, Obverse Medal Design. The Secretary presented the Commission five different Chief Justice medal designs, all of which would have the seal of the Supreme Court for the reverse side. A common letter style was to be used throughout the series, though different medals would be designed by different Bureau artists. Mr. George Schafer of the Mint staff indicated that the Mint was satisfied with the various designs, except for the Ellsworth medal. In that case the bust was cut off with a line at the bottom; in all other cases the busts ended at

the bottom medal curve. The Commission indicated that the designs intended were generally approved, but that the actual plaster models would best indicate the quality of the sculpture. It was suggested that these be submitted. The Commission unanimously approved the Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson design. EXHIBIT C

2. Chief Justice Oliver Ellsworth Medal. The Commission unanimously approved the medal if the base line of the bust would be curved rather than in a straight line. (See E, 1 above)

3. Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes Medal, unanimously approved (see E, 1 above).

4. Chief Justice Earl Warren Medal, unanimously approved (see E, 1 above).

5. Chief Justice John Rutledge Medal, unanimously approved (see E, 1 above).

F. Federal Reserve System

Federal Reserve Board Headquarters Building, Enclosure of Podium Level - Consideration of Alternatives. The Secretary told the Commission that he and the Assistant Secretary had met with Governor Gardner of the Federal Reserve and had indicated the Commission's strong stand against the proposal to enclose the lower level or podium of the building at its April 5th, 1977 meeting. At that time the Commission staff and the Federal Reserve Board representatives had decided that the Commission would be able to visit the site and discuss various alternatives to creating more enclosed space in the area in question. The Commission unanimously concurred with their previous stand and the suggestion that they examine new alternatives.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m. and the members left the building for an inspection of the Federal Reserve Board Building.

III. INSPECTION

Federal Reserve Board Headquarters Building, 20th and C Streets, N.W. The members, Secretary, and Assistant Secretary met on the site with Governor Stephen Gardner of the Federal Reserve Board and John Denkler of his staff. After walking the partial perimeter of the site and up into the podium level, Governor Gardner showed the members a revised model showing a glass line set back of the columns several feet. The disapproved scheme had the glass line at the column line. The Commission felt that this type of scheme should be explored further. Large scale models or mockups could be aids

in determining the location, slant, and color of such a new glass line. Attention to lighting, site lines, and reflections should also be part of such a study. The Chairman indicated that sloping the glass could be a technique for achieving some additional interior room. Though the attic floor of the building was built with dark setback glass, matching this on the podium level could diminish the benefit of seeing under the structure between the office landscape partial partitions and the existing ceiling. The Commission unanimously indicated their willingness to examine alternatives.

Signed,

Charles H. Atherton

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

EXHIBIT A

4 May, 1977

Dear Jack,

At its April 26, 1977 meeting the Commission of Fine Arts considered 1963 and '64 alternate designs for the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Island footbridge. We regret that the money for building the originally approved orthotropic steel single-span 400-foot bridge has not been forthcoming, but realize the problems involved in this project. The Commission has long hoped that the existing causeway could be removed and an appropriate entrance to this presidential memorial be constructed. Our hope is that an additional alternate study could be prepared of an arched, or curved, configuration, with timber floor and handrail on a concrete structure. The answer as to whether or not thellonger or shorter versions of the design should be used will best be determined by how and where the bridge lands on both ends. This we feel is a question of site study and we look forward to working with you on that problem. Our hope is that the island end of the bridge will be a minimum intrusion to the natural landscape of the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial.

Our next meetings will be on May 24 and June 28. We will be delighted to look at any additional studies or material at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish, Jr.
Director
National Capital Region
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

JCB/DBM:nn

EXHIBIT B

4 May, 1977

Dear Commander Coins:

The Commission of Fine Arts approved designs for the Post Exchange Facility for Bolling/Anacostia during its April 26, 1977 meeting. We are delighted to see that this proposal fits into the master plan and the established use of materials under way in this important area. The Commission was particularly pleased to see a response to energy conservation and the incorporation of solar equipment as part of the architectural design of the building. This is one of the first examples of this type of coordination the Commission has reviewed, and we surely commend the Navy for this progressive outlook. As a footnote, the Commission wishes to record its condinuing hope that good, mature landscaping can be a part of the overall post. We hope that this can be the case adjacent to the new Exchange Facility as well as elsewhere.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Commander P. A. Coins
Head, Planning Department
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Chesapeake Division
Building 57
Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D.C. 20374

JCB/DBM:nn

EXHIBIT C

4 May, 1977

Dear Mr. MacDonald.

The Commission of Fine Arts, with Mr. Schafer of your staff, reviewed designs for five Chief Justice medals during its April 26, 1977 meeting. The Commission gives general approval of the approach to the medals and finds that a unified letter style to match the reverse side is a desirable feature. Among the specific comments made by the Commission was the hope that on the Chief Justice Oliver Ellsworth medal the bottom of the bust be rounded to match the shape of the medal in a fashion similar to the other medals. The Commission feels that though the sketches give a good indication of what is being proposed, it would be even more desirable to see the actual plaster maquettes. We shall be happy to review them when they are ready.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. F. H. MacDonald
Acting Director
Bureau of the Mint
Department of the Treasury
Washington, D.C. 20220

JCB/DBM:nn